

[19 March, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

Engineer (Civil & Electrical) to be filled on regular basis as per 1954 Recruitment Rules are as under:—

	Gen.	SC	ST	Total
Civil	71	56	34	161
Electrical	22	20	12	54

Increase in working days of rural poor

2508. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to increase the working days of the rural poor;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by Government to help the migrant labourers; and

(d) whether Government would provide any extra assistance to the agricultural working women to increase the additional employment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

PM's concern over the widening gap between rich and poor

2509. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Prime Minister has expressed his concern about the relative gap between the rich and the poor being widened and that the rate at which poverty is being eradicated has not kept pace with the rate at which rich are getting richer;

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken so that more

poverty eradication programmes are introduced with time bound results and constant periodical monitoring of the results to be achieved; and

(c) what are the details of the existing poverty eradication programmes and whether the results envisaged have been achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Irregularities in DoP

2510. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2357, given in Rajya Sabha on 11th December, 2000, and state:

(a) whether the CBI on the basis of unflinching evidence had converted the said case from P.E. to R.C. on 20th July, 1998 and later efforts were made to dilute the same;

(b) whether the delinquent officers have been absolved of the charges of committing large-scale irregularities;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether there is variance in the CBI Investigation Report and CAG Report in the said case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) The P.E. was converted into R.C. on 20.7.98 by CBI, after *prima facie* material was revealed during preliminary enquiry indicating commission of cognizable offence by the suspects.

However, at the time of registration of the FIR, complete picture is not available. The evidence is assessed in totality by CBI after conclusion of the investigation, particularly from the point of view of the possibility of launching prosecution.

Investigation in the case has been completed and investigation